

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title of the application as follows:

NUCLEAR TRANSFER PROMOTER FOR RAC PROTEIN AND METHOD OF SCREENING
THE ~~DAME~~ SAME

Please amend the specification as follows:

Amend paragraph [0002] beginning on page 1, line 25 as follows:

[0002] GTP-binding protein (G protein) is a generic name of endogenous protein group having an activity of hydrolyzing GTP, and has been known for a G protein group involved in mRNA translation, a trimer G protein group conjugated with 7-times transmembrane receptor, a low-molecular-weight G protein group ("Experimental Medical Science," ~~Medicine~~, 21:137-145, 2003) and the like. Among these groups, 100 or more kinds of low-molecular-weight G protein proteins have been reported as proteins having molecular weights of 20,000 to 30,000 with no subunit structure, and after isoprenylation, these proteins transfer to cell membranes to participate in intracellular signal transmission as GTP-bound form (on)/GDP-bound form (off).

Amend paragraph [0010] beginning on page 4, line 19 as follows:

[0010] Further, the present inventors examined the influence of pitavastatin as HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor on gene expression in vascular endothelial cells, and they found that pitavastatin suppresses expression of inflammatory cytokine IL-8 or MCP-1, expression of endothelin and expression of PAI-1, promotes expression of NO synthase involved in vascular expansion and shrinkage, expression of thrombomodulin in a coagulation and fibrinolysis system

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(J. Atheroscler. Thromb., 9:178-183, 2002), and suppresses expression of PTX3 (promoting expression of TF and serving as an indicator of progress of arteriosclerosis) (~~J. Atheroscler. Thromb., 11:62-183, 2004~~). (J. Atheroscler. Thromb., 11:62-72, 2004).